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TITLE:

Method of storing produce in a controlled atmos. - comprises dividing produce into batches and supplying these with the controlled atmos. in a storage area having a life supporting atmos.

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INT-CL (IPC): A23B007/144, A23B007/148

ABSTRACTED-PUB-NO: AU 9174121A

BASIC-ABSTRACT:

A produce storage-area of the kind having a life supporting atmos. has the produce stored in batches, at least some of which have a controlled atmos.

The batches may be treated with gas either inside or outside the storage area, the treatment consisting of charging, recharging or replenishment with the gas. The gas may comprise a mixt. of nitrogen, 3-10% CO2 and 1-3% oxygen. Each batch may have an envelope with an impervious wall, into which the gas is introduced.

Fruits are stored in batches having a controlled atmos. comprising 93% N2, 5% CO2, and 2% O2. Each batch is contained in a plastics liner held in a bin. The liners are partially evacuated along branch lines, then supplied with the controlled atmos. along perforated lateral pipes leading from a main supply line. Short-stay produce is singly charged with the atmos., while long-stay produce is continually purged with the gas mixt.

USE/ADVANTAGE - The storage life of produce such as kiwi fruit is extended. The storage area may have a life supporting atmos. Air movement and produce loading and unloading have little effect on storage bins connected to the system. Use of standard PVC ware and irrigation components enables easy installation, even in existing coolstores. Probability of cross-contamination between prods. is reduced.

CHOSEN-DRAWING: Dwg.0/3

DERWENT-CLASS: D13

CPI-CODES: D03-A04; D03-H02F;